



# EMC News

May 4, 2005

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## WEBSITE COMMITTEE

*Submitted by Keith Epstein*

The EMC website development is progressing as scheduled. We have completed the layout, and we have started adding the content. We are planning to show it at the June EMC meeting. Please let a committee member know if there is anything you would like to contribute or have any questions.

## ENERGY COMMITTEE

*Submitted by Kenny Christianson*

The Energy Committee met on April 11. After two months of trying to decide on how to respond to Cornell's wind study, Cornell has recently decided to terminate the study and has now taken the wind out of our sails. (There are way too many puns involved here.) The Energy Committee will continue to explore potential wind sites in the county, and the Planning Department currently has an intern working on a sample municipal wind ordinance. We hope to bring this to the EMC soon. Despite the weather, the turnout was good for the Earth Day Festival at the Farmers Market on April 24. The EMC had displays on Tompkins County wind maps, the activities of the Energy Committee and the ICLEI process, and open burning (we were against it.). We hope to attract an even bigger audience for the Ithaca Festival. The Energy Committee also submitted a memorandum recommending that surplus County energy funds be used for the purchase of wind energy, but apparently this proposal never made it out of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee. We will continue to explore avenues for the County purchase or production of renewable energy sources.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

*No Report Submitted*

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

*No Report Submitted*

## OPEN BURNING COMMITTEE

*No Report Submitted*

## UNA COMMITTEE

*No Report Submitted*

## WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

*Submitted by Roger Yonkin, Liaison*

I have recommended to the WRC Wetlands Committee that they search the EMC archives for reports and other data relating to a "Fall Creek Corridor" developed by EMC in 1970's first by Larry Hamilton and a few years later by myself.

## INVASIVE PLANTS WORKSHOP

*Submitted by Tania Schusler*

Garlic Mustard and Other Invaders

Tues., May 10, 5:30-7 p.m.

\*Mundy Wildflower Garden, Cornell Plantations\*

Invasive plants threaten native habitats. Learn how to identify some of the most obnoxious invaders in our area and control techniques for menaces like garlic mustard. Rain or Shine. Free. Pre-registration requested at 272-2292.

## SAVE OUR WILD SALMON

*Submitted by Neha Khanna*

Michael O'Hara, graduate student in environmental economics at Binghamton University, will climb Mt. Rainier this summer to raise funds to restore wild salmon runs in the Columbia and Snake river basin in the Pacific Northwest. Tax deductible donations will go to the [Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition](#).

If you would like to contribute to this effort, please contact Michael at [mohara1@binghamton.edu](mailto:mohara1@binghamton.edu) or go to [www://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~mohara1/](http://www://bingweb.binghamton.edu/~mohara1/) for further information.

more News! ➡

**See you at the next EMC meeting!**

May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Members: Remember to notify the Chair if you will be absent!

Steve Nicholson, 539-6923 or [scnfish@clarityconnect.com](mailto:scnfish@clarityconnect.com)

## **EPA ISSUES CLEAN AIR INTERSTATE RULE (CAIR)**

*Submitted by Heather Filiberto*

On March 10, 2005, EPA issued the Clean Air Interstate Rule (CAIR), a rule that will achieve the largest reduction in air pollution in more than a decade. CAIR will ensure that Americans continue to breathe cleaner air by dramatically reducing air pollution that moves across state boundaries. CAIR will permanently cap emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) in the eastern United States. CAIR achieves large reductions of SO<sub>2</sub> and/or NO<sub>x</sub> emissions across 28 eastern states and the District of Columbia. When fully implemented, CAIR will reduce SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in these states by over 70 percent and NO<sub>x</sub> emissions by over 60 percent from 2003 levels. This will result in \$85 to \$100 billion in health benefits and nearly \$2 billion in visibility benefits per year by 2015 and will substantially reduce premature mortality in the eastern United States. The benefits will continue to grow each year with further implementation.

### **CAIR Reduces New York's Emissions**

- By 2015, CAIR will help New York sources reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) by **213,000 tons** or **84%**.

<b>SO<sub>2</sub> Emissions (thousand tons)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>
New York SO <sub>2</sub> emissions without CAIR	254	131	132
New York SO <sub>2</sub> emissions with CAIR	N/A	66	41

- By 2015 CAIR will help New York sources reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) by **32,000 tons** or **48%** from 2003 levels.

<b>NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions (thousand tons)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>
New York NO <sub>x</sub> emissions without CAIR	66	45	44
New York NO <sub>x</sub> emissions with CAIR	N/A	38	34

For more info:

<http://www.epa.gov/cair/>